OUR GRAND MASTER'S SLOGAN
"A REVITALIZED AND GREATER TEMPLARY"

THE TEMPLAR

A FRIENDLY VOICE OF TEMPLAR INTEREST TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Official publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island

GEORGE A. WEEKS, *Grand Recorder* ALFRED C. BLAKE, *Grand Commander*

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EMINENT SIRS AND SIR KNIGHTS:

The Joint Conclave at Holyoke on April 25th was a tremendous and outstanding success. Well over 300, including a class of 72 Candidates from 14 Commanderies, witnessed most impressive and beautiful renditions of the Orders of the Red Cross and Malta in full form by Holy Sepulchre and Worcester County Commanderies respectively. Without question all the Candidates, and for that matter, all others who were there as well, were much impressed with both performances.

This was the largest meeting which St. Andrew Commandery has had for a great many years, and I am sure that all who were there will agree that this Joint Conclave did a great deal to advance the cause of Templary generally, and in the western part of Massachusetts in particular.

While it would be impossible, in all probability, to express our thanks and appreciation individually to all of those who contributed so generously of their time and effort to make this evening such a success, I feel that our gratitude should be expressed in particular to E. Sir William Turner, E. Sir Arvin C. M. French, and E. Sir George W. Shaw, of St. Andrew Commandery, upon whom fell the burden of making all the necessary arrangements in Holyoke for this Conclave, to E. Sir Searles Thomas Bray, presiding Commander of Holy Sepulchre Commandery for his assistance and cooperation in agreeing to furnish the Red Cross team of his Commandery, to E. Sir Oscar Conrad, the presiding Commander of Worcester County Commandery who did such an excellent job as Prior of his Malta team, to E. Sir William F. Raymond, not only for his direction of his Red Cross team, but also for a most impressive performance as the Sovereign Master, and last, but not least, to our Grand Junior Warden, E. Sir Louis A. Beaudoin upon whose shoulders rested the responsibility for setting up and arranging this Joint Conclave.

The Commanderies present with their respective number of Candidates, are as follows:

Berkshire Commandery	14
Northampton Commandery	12
Natick Commandery	7
Worcester County	6
St. Andrew Commandery	5
Haverhill Commandery	5
Jerusalem Commandery	4
Ivanhoe Commandery	4
St. Paul Commandery	4
Gethsemane Commandery	4
Trinity Commandery	4
Joseph Warren Commandery	1
Temple Commandery	1
Holy Sepulchre Commandery	1

If your Commandery was not represented, and with a number of Candidates present, it is unfortunate as this was an evening which will long be remembered.

On Sunday, April 26th, our associate Grand Prelate Rev. W. Irving Monroe, Jr., who is also the Commander of St. Omer Commandery, held a very successful and well attended service at the Pilgrim Congregational Church, of which he is the pastor, at Uphams Corner, Dorchester. The service was preceded by a parade of the Sir Knights of St. Omer Commandery as well as other Commanderies, in uniform, and Chapter and Blue Lodge Masons, led by the band of Aleppo Temple. The heads of all the York Rite bodies were present, as well as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, M.W. Andrew Gray Jenkins who, briefly but eloquently, brought the greetings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to the congregation.

Space does not permit a detailed account of the details of the service, but all who were there will, I am sure, agree that they were very happy to have been present.

Courteously,

ALFRED C. BLAKE, Grand Commander.

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Explanation of Masonic Dates and The Ancient Order of the Temple

The 9 Knights who organized the Order in 1118 A.D.: Hugh de Payens, Godfrey de Saint Aldemar, Roral, Gundemar, Godfrey Bisol, Payens de Montidier, Archibald de Saint Aman, Andre de Monthar, Count of Provence.

The following dates are adopted by the various bodies of Masonry. Dates are carried out for the year 1959.

ANCIENT CRAFT MASONS date from the creation of the world, B.C. 4000, calling it ANNO LUCIS (Year of Light). Hence add 4000 to common time. A.D. 1959 = A.L. 5959.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS date from the beginning of the building of the Second Temple by Zerubbabel, B.C. 530, calling it ANNA INVENTIONIS (Year of Discovery). Hence add 530 to common time. A.D. 1959 = A.I. 2489.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS refer to the completion of the First Temple, B.C. 1000, calling it ANNO DEPOSITIONIS (Year of the Deposit). Hence add 1000 to common time. A.D. 1959 = A. Dep. 2959.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR date from the founding of the Order, A.D. 1118, calling it ANNA ORDINIS. Hence subtract 1118 from common time. A.D. 1959= A.O. 841.

SCOTTISH RITE MASONS use ANNO MUNDI (Year of World) Creation 5719.

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There are 21 Commanderies that have not paid their Grand Encampment Knight Templar Eye Foundation Assessment to date - which Assessment must be paid before June 1, 1959. Has your Commandery paid its Assessment?

Grand Commander's Ball

The Presiding Councils Club again sponsored the Annual Grand Commander's Ball on April 10th at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, and this year our Grand Commander, R.E. Alfred C. Blake graciously shared his personal honors with a testimonial to R.E. Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr. About 430 Knights in uniform accompanied by their ladies filled the spacious Main Ballroom comfortably. At 8:15 the Rt.Em. Grand Commander Alfred C. Blake was escorted thru an escort of Boston Commandery to the stage, followed by the Grand Commandery Officers. Following appropriate words of greetings by the Grand Commander, he appointed V.E. Sir Holley to retire and escort Rt. Em. Robert Gardiner Wilson, Jr. to the stage, which was accomplished, and when all were seated the colorful entrance of massed Grand Standards, Beauseants and the U.S. Colors of about 30 Commanderies followed. The latter formed the arms of a huge Passion Cross, the body being formed by uniformed Sir Knights marching in sixes with drawn swords. The formation was halted, swords presented and the band played our National Anthem, most of the audience joining in singing it. The ranks of Knights marched around the Ballroom, passing in review before the stage where the Grand Commander and digniaaries were seated, the men being at Port Swords and Eyes Right. A Grand March led by R.E. and Mrs. Blake presented a fine sight. We were glad this year to have five Drill Teams entered in the competitive exhibition. Teams from Holy Sepulchre, Thomas Smith Webb, Boston, Reading and De Molay, the last three being newcomers this year, did themselves and their Commanderies proud. The Judges awarded the Pollard Cup for the second year to Holy Sepulchre. Several acts of high-class vaudeville followed and general dancing to Baron Hugo's music continued until midnight. During the evening, the 2d Platoon of Aleppo Temple marched in and presented arms to Judge Wilson, who was completely surprised by their appearance. He has and still does drill with this platoon every Friday night for many years, and came down from the stage taking his accustomed position #9 in their drill. He was presented a beautiful engrossed scroll from the Club in testimony of its appreciation of what he has done for York Rite Masonry and Templary over many years and the high regard all have for him. Templary was surely on the march.

Easter Sunrise Service as Reported by William J. Williams, Commander South Shore #31

March 29, 1959, Sunday, Easter Sunrise Service. Date, day and event that Mrs. Williams and I shall never forget. We left Braintree on Friday and had a full day to take in the sights. We visited Mount Vernon, the Mall, the Washington Masonic Memorial, the Washington Monument, Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials and other places of interest. They were all very interesting, but the gathering at the Arlington National Cemetery will never be forgotten. To see all the people heading for the Amphitheater you begin to wonder just where the Sir Knights will fit. I was quite surprised to find room for us all. Just how many were present I could not say. I was too thrilled with what I was taking part in. After the service, a Cross of Lilies was placed at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Those present from South Shore were Em. Sir George W. Dunlap and Sir Kts. C. Willis Garey and Franklin N. Pratt. Em. Sir "Doc" Russell of Bristol Commandery at Alleboro, Em. Sir Robert Coombs of Bay State at Brockton, were others from Massachusetts. The Grand Commandery was represented by Rt.Em. Alfred C. Blake, Grand Commander, and Mrs.Blake, Em.Sir Clarence E. Booth, Grand Generalissimo and Mrs. Booth, and Em. Sir Louis A. Beaudoin, Grand Junior Warden, and Mrs. Beaudoin.

ALL-MASONIC SERVICE OF DIVINE WORSHIP, sponsored by South Shore Commandery#31, William J. Williams, Commander, and Quincy Commandery #47, L. Dagfinn Jorgensen, Commander -- Sunday, May 17, 1959 at 10:45 A.M. First Parish Church (Unitarian), 1306 Hancock Street, Quincy, Mass. Sir Knights will wear uniforms, other Masonic bodies will wear jewels, collars, aprons, etc. of your organization.
Ladies are invited to meet in the church parlor.
Assemble in parking area to the rear of the Adams Academy at corner of Hancock and Dimmock Streets, marching in a body to the church at 10:30 A.M. SHARP. All Masons in the area are invited.
Brethren: This place of worship has been selected due to the seating capacity of about 900. It is our desire to fill the entire church. Let each of us plan to attend. Surely we can be absent from our own churches for this one Sunday.

EXCERPTS OF MESSAGE FROM WILBER M. BRUCKER
R.E.GRAND GENERALISSIMO GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

As Knights Templar we find constant inspiration in the spiritual heritage bequeathed to us by those Stalwart Christian warriors who nobly wore the Cross in the Great Crusades of long ago. The finest flower of that inspiration is our forthright acceptance of the challenge to a new crusade in the defense of Christian principles and human freedoms which is implicit in the present critical world situation.

Freedom and the moral values upon which freedom is founded are always under attack. Today the attack is being pushed forward more vigorously and on a broader front than at any previous time in history. The menace of aggression by the powerful and ruthless communist enemy whose ideology dishonors God and debases man, looms as a major peril to our Nation and everything for which it stands. It threatens every one of our cherished institutions--the home, the church, the school. It threatens the life and liberty of each individual American, and the future of our children for generations to come.

Templary particularly needs to give immediate thought to strengthening our ranks. This job is one requiring urgent action at the local Commandery level. While there should be no public membership campaign as such, Templary should, with all propriety, organize and proceed at once with maximum effort to bring into our fold thousands of dedicated Master Masons in every local community throughout the land. Each Sir Knight should quietly and constantly keep his eyes open for top quality Masons to be invited to take this important forward step. The process should be highly selective and the invitation should be exclusively personal.

Templar Masonry has an impressive role in modern society that can be discharged only by having great numbers of dedicated Sir Knights in our ranks. We cannot afford to accept the status quo. We are expected to wage the kind of a crusade that requires devotion to duty by great hosts of top level men. To accomplish this, we must arouse every last Templar to his sense of personal responsibility to the Christian Cause. Only by exerting ourselves and attracting large numbers of good men to our Cause can we build more strongly the structure of Templary and be worthy of the day in which we live. In every aspect of our lives we must again raise high the standard of the Cross. In this sign we shall conquer.

COMMANDERY	QUOTA	7 MOS.	APR.	TOTAL
St. John's	42	3	0	3
Boston	75	34	4	38
Newburyport	20	5	0	5
Washington	7	4	0	4
Worcester County	49	11	4	15
Springfield	35	14	0	14
De Molay	54	33	5	38
Holy Sepulchre	24	0	0	0
Pilgrim	20	15	1	16
Palestine	13	10	1	11
Milford	11	5	2	7
St. Bernard	6	4	1	5
Calvary	42	14	8	22
Haverhill	25	15	2	17
Old Colony	13	11	0	11
Sutton	36	12	8	20
Bethany	9	21	0	21
Winslow Lewis	14	3	1	4
Jerusalem	19	13	0	13
Hugh dePayens	40	17	3	20
St. Omer	21	6	3	9
Berkshire	17	26	9	35
Conn. Valley	10	3	0	3
Woonsocket	12	3	0	3
Godfrey deBouillon	8	11	1	12
Joseph Warren	11	1	1	2
Narragansett	13	1	3	4
Bristol	17	7	4	11
Northampton	7	4	9	13
South Shore	10	12	0	12
Trinity	12	4	4	8
Natick	17	11	8	19
Coeur de Lion	24	22	0	22
Gethsemane	32	14	3	17
Olivet	30	8	4	12
Athol	9	9	2	11
Bay State	26	9	5	14
Cyprus	11	6	0	6
St. Paul	8	0	4	4
Beauseant	22	10	3	13
Cambridge	10	3	2	5
Bethlehem	10	14	0	14
Orange	5	3	1	4
Ivanhoe	17	3	4	7
Quincy	20	15	0	15
Temple	13	9	5	14
St. Andrew	10	4	4	8
Reading	20	20	4	24
Thomas Smith Webb	12	15	1	16
Sir Galahad	12	0	0	0
TOTALS	1,000	497	124	621

1958-1959 MONTHLY OBJECTIVE NECESSARY TO REACH QUOTA

	Obj.	Act.
Sept.	56	19
Oct.	130	77
Nov.	98	45
Dec.	82	84
Jan.	108	70
Feb.	124	126
March	116	76
April	116	124
May	112	
June	59	

ACCUMULATIVE

	Obj.	Act.
Sept.	55	19
Oct.	185	96
Nov.	283	141
Dec.	365	225
Jan.	473	295
Feb.	597	421
March	713	497
April	829	621
May	941	
June	1,000	

COMPARISON

	1959	1958	1957	1956
Sept.	19	45	53	54
Oct.	96	140	185	167
Nov.	141	221	241	251
Dec.	225	269	312	291
Jan.	295	349	409	370
Feb.	421	430	520	480
March	497	511	616	549
April	621	613	707	616
May		693	772	691
June		744	832	722

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Sir Knights:

We are glad to welcome Northampton, Natick and Temple Commanderies to the quota attainment list. Congratulations to Em.Commanders Anthony W. Nimohay, Edward A. Olson and Donald B. Valentine. Eleven Commanderies have equaled or exceeded their quotas. Thirteen more need only from one to five petitions to make their quotas. All of those and others too can and should join the "select group." Make the last two months of the year count for your Commandery in a big way!

J. Leroy Jones, Director
Membership Progress and
Publicity